MetaRule

Path Management

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Part "Original Cigital Coding Rule in XML"

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Attack Category	Malicious Input
Vulnerability Category	Buffer Overflow
Software Context	File Path Management
Location	
Description	Output buffers for path functions must be sized to hold at least MAX_PATH characters.
	In general, Windows path functions need to have a buffer of at least MAX_PATH otherwise they are subject to buffer overruns.
	For some Windows functions, if a Unicode path begins with "\\?" then the path can be longer than MAX_PATH characters, up to 32,000+ characters is length. It is unclear when this applies in a way that would lead to buffer overflows.
APIs	Function Name Comments
	PathAddBackslashA
	PathAddBackslashW
	PathAddExtension
	PathAddExtensionA
	PathAddExtensionW
	PathAppend
	PathAppendA
	PathAppendW
	PathCanonicalize
	PathCanonicalizeA
	PathCanonicalizeW
	PathCombine
	PathCombineA
	PathCombineW

^{1.} http://buildsecurityin.us-cert.gov/bsi-rules/35-BSI.html (Barnum, Sean)

MetaRule 1

Method of Attack	
Exception Criteria	
Solutions	Solution Solution Solution Applicability Description Efficacy
	Path functions. Ensure that output buffer is sized as MAX_PATH characters. Effective
Signature Details	Any function that returns a path as a result.
Examples of Incorrect Code	<pre>WCHAR path[] = L"MyFile.dat"; // Buffer is too small LPWSTR pszPath = path; LPCWSTR dirs[] = { NULL };</pre>
	<pre>if (!PathResolve(pszPath, dirs, PRF_VERIFYEXISTS) { handleError(); }</pre>
Examples of Corrected Code	<pre>WCHAR path[MAX_PATH] = L"MyFile.dat"; // Buffer is correctly sized LPWSTR pszPath = path; LPCWSTR dirs[] = { NULL };</pre>
	<pre>if (!PathResolve(pszPath, dirs, PRF_VERIFYEXISTS) { handleError(); }</pre>
Source Reference	• Rough Auditing Tool for Security (RATS) ²
Recommended Resource	
Discriminant Set	Operating System • Windows
	Languages • C • C++

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MetaRule 2

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